Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 61368 ACTION BERN BONN BERLIN INFO ZURICH LONDON PARIS MOSCOW COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE MAR 27

QUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRN, SZ, GW

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - BERLIN-ZURICH ROUTE PROPOSAL

REF: (A)BONN 3688; (B) STATE 54933; (C) BERN 1073

- 1. ON MARCH 26, SWISS DCM EXCHAQUET DELIVERED AN AIDE MEMOIRE TO THE DEPARTMENT, OFFERING TO TRADE RIGHTS FOR PAN AM TO OPERATE THREE DAYS PER WEEK AT ZURICH FOR SWISSAIR RIGHT TO ADD TORONTO AS INTERMEDIATE STOP ON SWITZERLAND-CHICAGO ROUTE. ACTING DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MEADOWS, EB/OA, SAID USG HAD NOT ENVISAGED ROUTE EXCHANGE UNDER US-SWISS BILATERAL, BUT WOULD STUDY SWISS PROPOSAL AND RESPOND IN DUE COURSE.
- 2. TEXT OF SWISS AIDE MEMIORE FOLLOWS: "IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FACT THAT A DIRECT AIR LINK BETWEEN SWITZERLAND AND BERLIN

IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC, THE SWISS GOVERNMENT IS INCLINED TO CONSIDER THE U.S. PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE SCHEDULE TO THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT OF AUGUST 3, 1945, IN A POSITIVE ATTITUDE, IN VIEW OF GRANTING THE REQUESTED RIGHTS FOR THREE WEEKLY FLIGHTS.

THE SWISS GOVERNMENT HAS HOWEVER TO TAKE CARE THAT SUCH AN AMENDMENT WILL NOT HAVE VIRTUALLY UNILATERAL EFFECTS ON SWISS-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

IN PARTICULAR, WHILE AGREEING TO REGARD TRAFFIC CARRIED ON THE CONTEMPLATED BERLIN SERVICE AS THIRD/FOURTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC CARRIED UNDER THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT, THE SWISS GOVERNMENT IS NOT IN A POSITION TO CONSIDER THE EXISTING BILATERAL AGREEMENT AS CURRENTLY UNBALANCED IN FAVOUR OF ITS DESIGNATED AIRLINE. ON THE CONTRARY, THE IMBALANCE OF OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE AGREEMENT IS CLEARLY IN FAVOUR OF AMERICAN CARRIERS.

THE SWISS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER AS A SUFFICIENT COMPENSATION, TOGETHER WITH THE TWO POINTS JUST MENTIONED, THE RIGHT FOR ITS DESIGNATED AIRLINE TO ADD TORONTO (BESIDES MONTREAL) TO THE CHICAGO ROUTE AS CONTEMPLATED IN PARA B.3 OF THE ROUTE SCHEDULE. THE PURPOSE OF SUCH AN ADDITION WOULD NOT BE TO INCREASE THE FREQUENCY OF THE CHICAGO SERVICES IN THE NEAR FUTURE, BUT MERELY TO GET GREATER OPERATIONAL FLEXIBILITY.

THE SWISS GOVERNMENT THEREFORE WOULD PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEDULE TO THE AGREEMENT OF AUGUST 3, 1945:

"B.3 FROM SWITZERLAND VIA TWO INTERMEDIATE POINTS IN EUROPE AND MONTREAL AND/OR TORONTO TO CHICAGO, WITHOUT TRAFFIC RIGHTS BETWEEN MONTREAL AND/OR TORONTO ON THE ONE HAND AND CHICAGO ON THE OTHER."

"E. WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE RIGHT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR ITS DESIGNATED AIRLINES TO OPERATE THROUGH AIR SERVICES FROM THE UNITED STATES VIA INTERMEDIATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POINTS TO ZURICH, BASEL AND GENEVA AND BEYOND, AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE UNITED STATES ROUTE DESCRIBED IN THIS SCHEDULE, THS GOVRNMENT OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION WILL PERMIT SUCH AMERICAN AIRLINE AS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MAY NOTIFY TO THE SWISS GOVERNMENT TO PICK UP AND DISCHARGE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN PASSENGERS, CARGO AND MAIL AT ZURICH ON A TURN-AROUND AIR SERVICE VIA THE ALLIED-CONTROLLED CORRIDORS TO BERLIN, BETWEEN

ZURICH AND BERLIN, FOR THREE WEEKLY FLIGHTS."

- 3. IN MAKING PRESENTATION, SWISS DCM NOTED THAT UK HAD ALSO APPLIED FOR BERLIN-ZURICH RIGHTS, AND IMPLIED THAT BRITISH APPLICATION, PLUS "CONGESTION AT ZURICH AIRPORT," PROMPTED SWISS TO PROPOSE LIMITING PAN AM FREQUENCIES TO THREE WEEKLY. HE AGREED TO SEEK FROM SWISS FEDERAL AIR OFFICE BERN'S RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED LIMITATION ON FREQUENCIES.
- 4. DEPARTMENT'S NEXT STEP WILL BE TO SURVEY ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES. SOLUTION ALONG DANISH LINES (REF B) SEEMS UNPROMISING SINCE, ALTHOUGH TWA SERVES ZURICH AND GENEVA, PAN AM IS NOT RPT NOT CURRENTLY CERTIFICATED BY CAB FOR OPERATIONS INTO SWITZERLAND, AND HAS IN FACT RECENTLY PROPOSED THAT CAB STUDY RE-ALLOCATION OF ROUTES SO THAT, IN ABSENCE OF AUTHORITY TO POOL REVENUES ON DUPLICATED ROUTES ONLY ONE U.S. AIRLINE SERVE ANY GIVEN EUROPEAN CITY.
- 5. SHOULD DR. GULDMANN STILL WANT TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH CAB CHAIRMAN TIMM DURING LATTER'S VISIT IN APRIL (PARA 3, REF C), HE SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT, ALTHOUGH MR. TIMM WILL BE FULLY BRIEFED ON THE ZURICH-BERLIN ROUTE PLANS, THE CAB HAS DEFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN THE REGULATION OF SERVICES BY US AIRLINES OPERATING OUT OF BERLIN BECAUSE THE US CARRIERS' AUTHORITY TO OPERATE THIS SERVICE STEMS FROM TRIPARTITE ALLIED OCCUPATION RIGHTS GROWING OUT OF UNCONDITIONAL GERMAN SURRENDER AT END OF WORLD WAR II, AND IS NOT GOVERNED DIRECTLY BY US AVIATION REGULATIONS.
- 6. DEPARTMENT WELCOMES VIEWS AND COMMENTS OF ADDRESSEE POSTS. RUSH UNQUOTE RUSH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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